
Title: Lands of Sareni Part2

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carriage. It was black,
and the curtains within it
were blood red. The man
she was talking to was a
large, wild looking man,
with a long brown beard
and glowing yellow wolf
eyes.

“Now, now Maris. We
could do this the easy
way. Or we can do it the
hard way.” The woman
said, crackcracking her
whip loudly in the air.
“Never, Zril. I’m not
going back to that mad

man of a Master you
have.” He said, taking a
step back from the whip.

“Maris... don’t make
me be a witch..” Zril
said with a laugh.
“I don’t have to make
you be one. Its what you
are.” He spat, taking
another step back away
from her. “I’m not

going.”
“Come now, dear... You
are, and you know this.”
She said.
“Never.” Maris spat.
The woman cracked the
whip in the air again. She
cracked the whip again,
this time, binding it
around his neck, and
pulled him towards her,
and to his knees. She
took the rope, and began
to bind his hands
together. Zril kicked him,
knocking him onto his
stomach, and bent, tying

his feet. She stood up straight, looking towards the carriage. He fought, but her strength, even as frail as she looked; he could not get free from the ropes she had tied. She turned, looking to the carriage driver. The carriage driver was a beast of a man, his skin a sickly green, his clothes tattered. "Maris, you are a fool." She said, finishing tying him his hands together.

"Now Maris" We plan to over throw the Draconic Knights.. Those fools will die, along with the dragons they do so treasure, and you, my dear friend, will be a key player." Zril said, nodding slightly, "Midsummer's eve, you will become the ultimate weapon, and Argith will be the new Emperor." She laughed manically, climbing into the driver's seat of the cage. She started off, into the night.

Jerahd looked to Kyrstian. "We have to warn the Knights!" He exclaimed.

"Are you out of your mind?" She exclaimed, looking slightly flabbergasted at him.

"No, but Kyrs, this might be my only chance to become a knight!" he exclaimed.

"Your not going alone." She said.

"Yes I am."

"No, your not. I'm coming too."

"God, Kyrs, your stubborn." Jerahd said with a bit of a groan.

"That I am." She replied.

"We must find our way home." He said,

"Tomorrow, we will head

out on our adventure.”

“We’ll have to go back the way we came.”

Kyrstain said, “But we’ll have to be careful.”

“Aye,” he replied. They started back towards the path. Kyrstian walked closer to Jerahd, jumping at the little noises that were going on about her. He shook his head, looking down at the path they were walking on. The path disappeared in spots, only to be visible again a few feet later.

“Where have you two been?” a voice asked as they entered the small cottage where they lived. “Swimming. But Jerahd got us lost.” Kyrstian said.

“Again?” their father asked.

“Again.” Kyrstian nodded.

“Jerahd, if your only mother saw the trouble you cause me.” he said, shaking his head.

Kyrstian smiled sweetly, hugging her father, and kissing his cheek. “Its okay, Daddy. At least you have one normal child.”

He laughed. “I can hardly call you and your brother children anymore. Your nearly seventeen..”

“We’ll always be your children.” Jerahd said, with a slight smirk.

“Now, off to bed with both of you.” Their father commanded with a soft voice.

Kyrstian woke to someone shaking her. She opened her eyes to see Jerahd standing over her. He had an eager look on his face.

“Come on! I’ve already packed for both of us. I found a map too.” He

said.

“What about father?”

she asked.

“I’ve left a note for him. Now lets go!” he said jerking her to her feet. She groaned, sliding her shoes on.

“Hey. You said you were coming.” Jerahd pointed out.

“I know, I know.”

He handed her a bag, which she slung over her shoulder. They tiptoed silently through the house, carefully not to wake their sleeping father.

Jerahd turned the doorknob slowly, pushing the front door open. The door creaked. Jerahd and Kyrstian froze. Had their father heard? They listened in the darkness for some time, but the house lay silent once again. They moved through the houses threshold, shutting the door silently. Kyrstian watched him as he picked up a torch from the small pile near the house. He took two small stones from his bag, striking them together to make a spark, lighting the torch. He then used the torch to light a second, handing it to Kyrstian.

“Lets go.” He said, moving down the village path that would lead them to Darmai. The whole village, besides Jerahd and Kyrstian, were silent, their minds off in dreamland not knowing what the two were doing outside that late at night.

“This could be really dangerous, Jerahd..”

Kyrstian said, frowning.

“Don’t worry...I’m your older brother.” He said.

“Only by five minutes.”

She said with a slight snort.

"I'm still older... And I'll protect you." He said, nodding slightly.

"Whatever you say, Jerahd.... But father will be worried.. What if he comes and finds us?" she asked.

"We'll worry about that if it happens." He said, shrugging some.

The path lead them to the edge of a large forest. The trees formed a canopy, and not a lot of light could be seen penetrating through into the forest. Kyrstian frowned, moving a step closer to Jerahd. She didn't like the look of the forest, and the look of it made her stomach uneasy.

"Jerahd.. I don't want to go in there." Kyrstian said, shaking her head.

"We have to. This is the path that'll take us directly to Darmai.." he said, looking to her.

"Don't worry. I don't think there is anything in there that can get us."

"Oh, you sound so assured of that." She said with a smirk.

"Come on, coward." He said, taking a step into the forest. Kyrstian jumped, as she moved to walk closer to him, looking about the forest warily.

"Jerahd.. I don't like the look of this forest.." she whined, grumbling a bit to herself.

"Don't worry... I'm here!" he said, grinning like a Cheshire cat.

"But Jerahd...." She said, frowning.

"Come on, you're the one who insisted on

coming along with me.”

He said, grumbling.

“Don’t make me send
you home and go along by
myself.” He said, firmly.

“Fine...” she said,
drawing the word out as
she spoke.

Animals scurried in the
long grasses around him,
and she gasped a bit,
jumping a bit closer to
her brother as she stood
there. She growled
slightly, afraid of the
creatures that might lurk
in the darkness around
them.